WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for the treatment of dry eye and other disorders requiring the wetting of the eye which comprises administering to a mammal a composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a pharmaceutically effective amount of a cytokine synthesis inhibitor selected from the group consisting of mtiogen-activated kinase inhibitors; c-jun N-terminal kinase inhibitors; I-kappa kinase inhibitors; IL-1β synthesis inhibitors; TNFα synthesis inhibitors; Janus family tyrosine kinase inhibitors; signal transducers and activators of transcription inhibitors; and retinoid X receptor ligands.

2. The method of Claim 1 wherein the cytokine synthesis inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of MAP kinase inhibitors and p38 kinase inhibitors.

3. The method of Claim 1 wherein the cytokine synthesis inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of (5-(2-amino-4-pyrimidinyl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-1-(4-piperidinyl)imidazole); anthra[1,9-cd]pyrazol-6(2H)-one; pralnacasan; (D)Arginyl-(D)Norleucyl-(D)Norleucyl-(D)Arginyl-(D)Norleucyl-(D)Norleucyl-(D)Norleucyl-Glycine-(D)Tyrosine-amide,acetate salt; 2-chloro-N-[3,5-di(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-4-(trifluoromethyl)pyrimidine-5-carboxamide; triflusal; and bexarotene.

4. The method of Claim 1 wherein the cytokine synthesis inhibitor is selected from the group consisting of c-jun N-terminal kinase inhibitors and activator protein-1 inhibitors.

5. The method of Claim 1 wherein the pharmaceutically effective amount of the cytokine synthesis inhibitor is 0.001 – 1.0% (w/w).

6. The method of Claim 1 wherein the composition is topically administered to the eye.

7. The method of Claim 1 wherein the dry eye and other disorders requiring the wetting of the eye is symptoms of dry eye associated with refractive surgery.